



Docket No.: D0188.70170US02  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Frederic P. Field et al.  
Serial No.: 10/737,197  
Confirmation No.: 5833  
Filed: December 16, 2003  
For: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE  
Examiner: A. T. Lang  
Art Unit: 3731

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 29, 2007

*Paula K. Fairweather*  
Paula K. Fairweather

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action mailed November 29, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.